

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ACDA-12 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 H-01
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R 111049Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4154
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

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USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, GW, UR, US
SUBJECT: IZVESTIYA ON WEST GERMAN RELATIONS

1. IZVESTIYA OF JULY 10 PUBLISHES AN ARTICLE BY ITS
BONN CORRESPONDENT N. POLYANOV ON IMPROVED PROSPECTS
FOR DETENTE IN THE FRG. POLYANOV DESCRIBES FAVORABLE
RESPONSES IN WEST GERMANY TO PERSISTENT SOVIET EFFORTS
TO EASE INTERNATIONAL TENSIONS AND REPORTS EVIDENCE
OF A GROWING DESIRE IN THE FRG TO BREAK WITH U.S.
POLICIES SAID TO BE LEADING TO HIGHER DEFENSE SPENDING.
THE SUCCESS OF BREZHNEV'S VISIT TO BONN IS REPORTED
TO BE RELATED TO NEW POSSIBILITIES FOR MBFR TALKS'
POLYANOV CONCLUDES BY NOTING THAT WHILE IN THE PAST
IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR BONN "TO RESIST AMERICAN TUTELAGE,"
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ECONOMIC STRENGTH AND THE "GOOD FRUITS OF A REALISTIC
POLICY LEADING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERRELATIONSHIPS
WITH THE SOVIET UNION" HAVE CHANGED THIS SITUATION
FOR THE FRG, AND FOR ALL WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

2. COMMENT: POLYANOV MAKES NO SECRET OF THE SOVIET
DESIRE TO DRIVE A WEDGE BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE FRG.

THE ARTICLE IS A FAR FROM SUBTLE CONTRIBUTION TO
THE DEVELOPING SOVIET EFFORT TO PORTRAY A GROWING
RIFT BETWEEN THE U.S. AND ITS ALLIES DUE TO THE
MOVEMENT TOWARD WIDENING DETENTE IN WESTERN EUROPE AND
TO ALLEGED U.S. GRAVITATION BACK TOWARD COLD WAR
POSITIONS. MATLOCK

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NNN

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